



CENTER FOR  
CATHOLIC STUDIES

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

LIVING, SHARING, AND  
DEEPENING CATHOLIC  
IDENTITY

YOUR SUPPORT LEAVES A LASTING  
**IMPACT** ON THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF  
SETON HALL, TOUCHING THE LIVES  
OF ITS STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND  
STAFF.

# IMPACT REPORT

2022

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# Living, Sharing, Deepening

## MISSION & CATHOLIC IDENTITY

### INTEGRAL FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Since its founding, a primary function of the Center for Catholic Studies has been faculty development, for the purpose of communicating and enhancing the university's Catholic mission and identity. Our programs have a vital impact on faculty, including the following.

### MISSION MENTORS PROGRAM

With generous support from the Provost's Office and other units on campus, the goal of this program is to advance faculty development in the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Catholic mission of the university using a peer mentoring model. Faculty members with demonstrated experience in these areas partner with a colleague who is interested in learning more about the Catholic intellectual tradition. Together, they develop a project that takes an innovative approach to integrating elements of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition into research, teaching, or experiential and service-learning initiatives.

### FACULTY SUMMER SEMINAR

For nearly a quarter century, the Center has convened an annual Summer Seminar. Over the years, hundreds of faculty have explored topics central to the Catholic intellectual tradition. This program inspired the development of key university programs such as the CORE and its curriculum. This year's seminar, *Ideas of the University: Then, Now and into the Future* takes place May 31-June 2, with Dr. Kenneth Parker of Duquesne University.

### TOTH-LONERGAN ENDOWED PROFESSOR

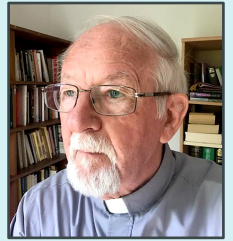
The Toth Lonergran Endowment supports Seton Hall's commitment to a robust Catholic Identity. The Endowment enables the Center to bring a Catholic professor to campus each year to engage with faculty, students, and staff in Catholic mission and Identity. The Chair is named for Deacon William Toth and Fr. Bernard Lonergran. S.J. Deacon Toth, founded the Institute on Work, now the Micah Institute, which seeks to link Catholic theology with various professions, especially business and law.

### PRAXIS PROGRAM

Co-Sponsored with the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership, the Praxis program utilizes the thought of Catholic theologian philosopher Bernard Lonergran, S.J. as a way for faculty to deepen pedagogical principles and practices with Seton Hall's mission in mind. This program has produced new courses and a growing interdisciplinary collaboration comprised of faculty who contribute to students' academic and human formation. Praxis programs have been developed at institutions across the country.



### WELCOME FR. BRIAN CRONIN, C.S.SP TOTH LONERGAN VISITING PROFESSOR



We are excited to welcome Fr. Brian Cronin, C.S.Sp. as the new Toth Lonergran Visiting Professor for the Fall 2022 semester! Fr. Brian Cronin, C.S.Sp., is a Spiritan priest from Dublin, Ireland. After his ordination, Fr. Cronin served as a missionary in Kenya for eight years. After which he spent over twenty years teaching at the Spiritan Missionary Seminary in Tanzania. He is the author of *Phenomenology of Human Understanding*; *Value Ethics: A Lonergran Perspective*; and *Foundations of Philosophy: Lonergran's Cognitive Theory and Epistemology*. Most recently, Fr. Cronin taught Philosophy at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania until retiring in 2020.

### ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-22 HIGHLIGHTS

Toth Lonergran Endowed Professor  
Fall and Spring Lectures,  
presented by J. Michael Stebbins

"Real Grace: Change, Freedom, Power"  
"What is Business For?", co-sponsored  
with the Stillman School of Business

Lonergran Lectures

Dr. Patrick Manning, "Meaning, Mental  
Health, and Educating the Christians of  
Tomorrow"  
Dr. Anne Carpenter, "God's Glory, in Part,  
is You."

"Papal Zoom"

Synod Listening Session with Seton Hall  
Faculty, Students, and Pope Francis

### NEW COLLABORATIONS

Human Dignity Series— "Dignity:  
Personalism, Health, and the Law"

Presented by Michal Rupniewski,  
Dr. Michael Baur, and Dr. Bryan  
Pilkington, co-sponsored with Seton  
Hall's Interprofessional Health Sciences.

"The Mindful Catholic"

Dr. Gregory Bottaro, co-sponsored with  
Immaculate Conception Seminary and  
Seton Hall Campus Ministry

"Why Christianity is Good for Science?"

Prof. Edward David, co-sponsored with  
The Society of Catholic Scientists,  
Immaculate Conception Seminary, and  
the Department of Catholic Studies



# Mission Metrics

Academic Year 2021-22

Over  
**1,000**  
PEOPLE

viewed or listened to our online content  
(i.e. YouTube, audio downloads)

**\$78,395**  
Total \$ raised

**\$5,000**

Total \$ awarded in scholarships  
and student support

**5**  
STUDENTS  
received  
scholarship  
support

Over  
**400**  
PEOPLE  
attended our events  
in person

**37**  
Events

## THANK YOU!

The continued efforts of the Center for Catholic Studies are made possible through your generous support and partnership in our mission.

## Looking Forward ➤

### EXPANDING OUR REACH

- Large multi-year grant from the Porticus foundation supporting integral faculty development in mission
- Supporting SHU leadership in national network of Catholic Studies centers
- New outreach to local church and community

### NEW STUDENT INITIATIVES

- Agape Latte
- Interfaith Dinners



# The Catholic Studies Difference

## Student Spotlight: Giselle Pineda

We sat down with senior Giselle Pineda, a Catholic Studies and Biology student, to ask her about the impact the Center for Catholic Studies has had on her experience at Seton Hall. Giselle is a First-Generation student, who has been awarded Catholic Studies scholarships among other University honors. After graduation, Giselle will begin graduate studies in Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University, before pursuing a career in medicine. Here is what she had to say.

### What difference has the Center for Catholic Studies made for you?

Originally, I was one of those people that assumed that religion was in its own category and science/technology was in a different one. With Catholic Studies... I realize there is a big overlap and I think that that is also what led me to pursue a master's in theology. When I do become a medical doctor, I want people to realize medicine and Christianity do have this really good close relationship. Especially in the healthcare field where there's so much controversy. It sounds very cliché, but it will help make the world a better place.

### How have you been able to learn and explore this during your time at Seton Hall? And what did that opportunity mean to you?

The first thing that comes to mind, just because it was so recent, was the Synod with Pope Francis, that the Center co-sponsored. I was able to meet with Pope Francis and the Loyola group as a student representative for Seton Hall. The main goal was to help migrants...

My group helped propose a way to get the people from our diocese and our church to realize the disconnect there is between people here and migrants and how we can help them in the healthcare field.

I come from a family of immigrants. I am a first-generation American and a first-generation student. Growing up I saw the struggle; I saw the big divide. As a little girl [I thought] 'We are all here, why can't we work together?' Now working with all these students, it made me realize I am not the only one who thinks like this... It reinforced the feeling I had that I want to help... I felt we can actually make a difference, we can actually change something. Educating other people, I think, is a first step in the right direction.

### How much of an impact have you seen the services of the Center for Catholic Studies provide to Seton Hall as a whole?

I think that the Center for Catholic Studies provides students with a lot of opportunities to learn more about the interdisciplinary aspect of Catholicism. From my perspective... The Center for Catholic Studies has become broader where speakers aren't just talking about Catholicism, it's a whole range of different topics. I think that plays a big role in their impact at Seton Hall.

### What has the Center for Catholic Studies scholarship support meant to you?

Aside from actually being able to come to Seton Hall, I think it made me want to learn more about the center and become more involved and at the same time it was the little push that I needed to continue my studies. Coming from parents who are immigrants, we didn't have much. So, getting the scholarship was a big step. You know how they say, 'hard work pays off'? Well, this was a way it paid off.



## Thank you, Danute!

FOR NEARLY 25 YEARS  
DANUTE NOURSE HAS  
SERVED THE SETON HALL  
COMMUNITY.

Part of the founding era of the Center for Catholic Studies, Danute played a pivotal role in the success of the Center's programs. She has been our "programmatic genius" dedicated to Catholic Mission and Identity in all aspects of her work. Her tireless service helped fortify the foundation upon which the Center stands. Danute is, in her own words, "retiring but not leaving." She will continue to assist the Center as a consultant to the Praxis program. Join us as we say, congratulations on a well-deserved retirement!

OUR  
STAFF



Gregory Floyd, Ph.D.  
Director



Matthew Higgins, Ed.D.  
Director of Programs



Laura Cavanagh  
Graduate Assistant



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